Will American Indians and Alaska Natives be recruited for jobs?

The Census Bureau has always relied on the help of American Indians and Alaska Natives to make the census work, and we will again when the American Community Survey is implemented.

For more information:

E-mail: cmo.acs@census.gov
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The American Community Survey

Current Information for American Indians and Alaska Natives

USCENSUSBUREAU
Helping You Make Informed Decisions

United States Census 2010

What is the American Community Survey?

The U.S. Census Bureau plans to change the way it takes the census, using only the short form to count the population in 2010. The American Community Survey will replace the long-form questionnaire, and it will be conducted each year, if Congress provides the funding. The American Community Survey is essentially the same as the long form, but it will produce data every year instead of once every 10 years. Some have called it the most innovative and useful advance in data collection since the census was invented.

Who will it help?

The American Community Survey collects information about education, housing, income, military service, and employment. The information is published every year. Tribal governments, states, cities, federal agencies, and businesses all need current information to make critical decisions. They decide what services are needed and how to distribute funding for housing, economic development, health care, and other programs that benefit veterans, children, families, the elderly, and society as a whole.

Who will participate?

Each month, approximately 250,000 households throughout the United States—different households each time—will be asked to participate in the American Community Survey. Small entities will be sampled at a higher rate to ensure that they are fully represented.

Most households will receive the American Community Survey by mail. A Census Bureau representative also may contact some households by telephone or by personal visit to their home.

Do I have to participate?

Yes. Just like participation in a census, there is a mandatory duty to respond to the American Community Survey.

Is the information I provide strictly confidential?

Yes. In fact, the Census Bureau is sworn to protect the confidentiality of your information.

What about my tribe or my reservation?

The use of American Community Survey data could result in improved utility services, new housing, job training, better school facilities, or a new health clinic that benefit you, your family, or your community or reservation. For example, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 requires information about American Indian and Alaska Native households to support training and employment activities. The American Community Survey will provide this critically important information.

When will the information be available?

American Indian and Alaska Native Areas and populations will receive new information every year. Is it free? Yes. Data will be available on the Census Bureau's Web site, www.census.gov/acs/www. Tribal governments will receive complimentary copies of American Community Survey data on CD-ROM.